

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
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The Book of John Lesson 24 upper room

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Read John 13:1-38 John 12: 40-50

The book of John is going to change in chapter 13. With verse 1 of chapter 13, we move into the upper room. The upper room discourse on the part of Jesus runs all the way through to chapter 17. If you have a red-letter Bible, you will notice 13 through 17 is almost entirely red.

Verse 1. Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. This is great news. Does He love you? He will love you to the end. And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; A proverb says a foolish son is a shame to his father. Imagine being the father of Judas? Having been recorded in Bible history as Judas Iscariot, Simon's son? What an awful thing to have a son like that. To bring shame upon you and upon your name.

Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. It would be like taking off your jacket or your coat. He takes off his outer or over clothing and girds himself. Remember Jesus is holy, He is not standing there with a little towel wrapped around His waist and His top and legs are exposed, no, He bound up the loose fabric or garments He is wearing with a towel, it is a big long towel. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. Think of the Lord of Glory doing that.

Verse 6. Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter. Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Now, you have to give Peter credit for having a good heart. What he is saying, he is saying out of respect for Jesus. The servant washes the feet of the important master. Peter says, "Lord, you are not going to wash my feet." Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. Simon Peter saith unto him, Peter is a great example of a baby Christian, full of zeal, ready to do anything for Jesus, though he is either all the way to the right or left — you have to like him.) Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

Verse 10. Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean. Lets take Jesus at His word; which makes it difficult to be a dispensationalist as some of our brethren want us to be. These men are already clean, according to Jesus. The only thing they need is to have their feet cleaned because of the dust and dirt they collect as walking through this world. "Peter, you do not know what I am doing now but you are going to know later." He is doing two things. Number one, He is showing them the fine art of humility Taking the lowest place and serving other, even if in many respects or many regards, you are the better person. You have the higher status or place in life.



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Secondly, He is teaching a doctrinal truth that once the Lord makes you clean, you are clean. But the part of you that comes in contact with the world may need some touching up from time to time and Jesus will be able to do that for you. If they are clean, who made them clean in the first place? Jesus did. If there feet are dirty and now their feet are being washed, who is keeping them clean? Jesus is. We learn hereafter as we learn in the epistles written to the New Testament church, if you are saved and born again, you are cleansed. Washing of regeneration. Thanks be to God. Titus 3:5. ...the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; This is the Lord doing a little touch every now and then as needed. He does both.

Now, your cross reference on *ye are clean* (when Jesus says you are clean, but I am going to wash you from time to time.) In Exodus 34:6-7, (and this is one of the often quoted verses in all the Bible. It is repeated ten times in various forms.) *And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty;* Before Jesus died you could be forgiven, but you could not be cleared because it took Jesus blood to clear you. These men were plainly forgiven, or the Lord could not have said, you are clean.

Come to Psalm 51:1 (This is David.) Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight...What is David asking for? Washing. Verse 10. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. That is what He asked for; let us see what the God gave him.

Psalm 32:1-5 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the <u>man</u> unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah. Now, when he said, <u>man</u>, it is such a blessing not only to be forgiven, but to know that the Lord will not impute sin unto me. He is saying just what Jesus said. If you are clean, you do not need to be washed again. You just need to let me touch up your feet from time to time when they have come in contact with the world. What a blessing to know that not only am I forgiven, but I will never again be guilty before God. I will never again have sin imputed to me. Jesus bore it all.

Verse 12. So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Can you hear the silence in that room? He asked a question and none of them can answer. After this pause, He says in verse 13, Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. It is a good thing to call Him Master and Lord. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you a commandment—that is not what He said. He said I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Here is what the Lord wants us to get from the passage. Please understand I am not opposed to a church having a feet washing service if they want to, but it is not like we are all going barefoot nowadays. Most of us wear shoes, socks and keep our feet pretty clean and our toenails manicured. Jesus did not say I have given you a commandment, rather I have given you an example of a servant.



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Do you see the greater taking the lowest place? Do you see the Lord and Master cleaning dirt out between the toes of men that are walking dusty, unpaved roads. Roads animals have traveled; these feet are filthy. The Lord, The I AM, The God who created the heavens and the earth... the Lord has washed their feet. Jesus said, I am giving you an example here. I want you to learn from me to take the lowest place; to humble yourself; to serve others; to take the place of indignity, humility; and allow the other person to benefit from your action.

Verse 16. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, This is one of those great verses that we should put on the front cover of our Bible. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. He did not say, you would be happy if you know them. He said, you are only happy if you do them. In fact, honestly, does not some of what we know keep us from being happy because we are not doing it?

Verse 18. I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me. Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he. The cross-reference to this verse is from Psalm 41:9. The illusion runs all the back to Genesis 3:15. There is a bruising of a heel there. Psalm 41:9. Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me. When you lift up the heel you are raising your foot to strike a crushing or killing blow. Genesis 3:15 says And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Look what happened? When he dealt that crushing blow, they were both wounded. Jesus is wounded at the cross, but comes through triumphantly. Satan in the heart of Judas Iscariot was wounded and they both end up the losers. Judas hangs himself and winds up in hell. The devil is defeated and looses his power over death. We see in the Lord's suffering and humiliation, He is triumphing over His foes.

Verse 20. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, (Second time we have read that statement.) and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. Nobody suspected Judas. There is not one person at that table, turn and say, "I knew it... it is him... watch... you watch... it is Judas. I am telling you. I have been watching that guy. He is shifty. I knew He was up to no good from the start." The people that you know that are up to no good, they are not the ones you have to worry about. It is the ones that are so smooth; the ones that are so outwardly righteous. The ones whose lives and families are so proper - but there is just something inside them that sooner or later is going to come out - they are the ones that will hurt you. Ole Judas, nobody pointed to him. Nobody figured he was the bad guy.

In Second Corinthians 11:13-15 the Bible says that Satan's ministers are ministers of righteousness, his angels are angels of light. The devil works through subtlety, through deceit, he counterfeits Christ, he counterfeits believers and counterfeits Bibles.

Verse 23. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. John does not ever name himself, but he makes it clear that it is him that he is talking about. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake. He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?

Verse 26. *Jesus answered*, *He it is*, *to whom I shall give a sop*, *when I have dipped it*. Why was Judas still in the room; think that Judas would have been out of there by then? He is probably thinking and I do not want them to read too much into it – He is probably



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thinking, "well, wow. Nobody else suspected me — maybe Jesus does not know it is me." Or maybe he is just that bold and that defiant. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the sop Satan entered into him. In John 6:71, we were told that he was a devil. And earlier in this chapter we are told that he is not clean. Now the person of Satan actually enters into the person of Judas. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly. Jesus is speaking to Judas and Satan is inside him. Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him. For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor. Speculation is almost always wrong. He then having received the sop went immediately out: (Now look.) and it was night. Judas went out and it was night. What does Judas do? He rejects the light and ends up in the darkness.

Verse 31. Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him. Little children, (Notice, He did not make that statement until Judas left. It is just as He said to Nicodemus, "ye must be born again". "How do I get born again?" Believe on me.") Little children, yet a little while I am with you. What is happening right there in the room? I AM... with you. The I AM is present; having supper with them. ...I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you.

Verse 34. A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; That commandment is found in Leviticus 19:18. But Jesus is about to make it a whole lot bigger. Leviticus 19:18, Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD. The old commandment is thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: The new commandment is That ye love one another; as I have loved you, because as amazing as it sounds Jesus loves me more than I love myself.

Verse 35. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one to another. That is the proof of discipleship. Not proof of salvation: but it is proof of discipleship.

Verse 36. Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. Why? Because he believes. Is not Peter's faith going to fail? Jesus knows that he going to forsake Him and flee? Jesus knows he is going to curse and swear and deny the Lord? Jesus knows he going to go back to fishing and get caught naked out on the boat? Look at this. Verse 37. Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Will you? Really? You are sure Peter? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

Jesus says three things. First of all, He says, I know that you are going to deny me; but you will follow me to where I am going. Peter has some sort of security given to him of the Lord that overrides the sin that Jesus knows that He is about to commit. Secondly. Peter said, I will lay down my life for your sake. Jesus said, now, that is where I am going and you cannot follow me now but you will follow me afterwards. Peter did end up laying down his life for Jesus sake. He just was not as ready at this time as he thought he was.

And thirdly, let me show you again one of these great things that you find in these chapters in John. Look at the end of the chapter. Peter says, I will follow you. Jesus says, yes you will. Peter says, where you are going, I want to go. Jesus says, you will but not now. Where is Jesus going? Is not He going through death to heaven? Did not He tell Peter you are going to follow me through death to heaven? But then there is this little



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incident along the way of Peter denying the Lord three times. Right? "Never knew Him.... Do not know Him.... I am not one of them." And Jesus finds him – remember? They are sitting there, Jesus says, do you love me, feed my sheep..." He restores him. Right? How did the chapter start out?

"Lord, you are not going to wash my feet...."

Peter, you are going to need me to wash your feet.

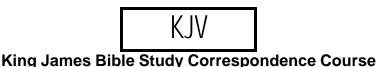
"Then wash all of me."

"Peter, I have already taken care of that. You do not need to be washed from head to toe. But you do need to have your feet washed." At the end of the chapter, what do you have? You have a man who is clean enough to have Jesus say, you are going to follow me through death to heaven..." But you have a man who is going to deny the Lord three times and have to get his feet washed along the way.

Whoever wrote John was brilliant. And I do not think it was John. I think it was the Holy Spirit. Do you see the promise in verse 36? Whither I go. Where is He going? Through death to heaven. ...thou canst not follow me now; It is not time; you are not ready. ...but thou shalt follow me afterwards. There is the statement in the surety that Peter is going to go and be where Jesus is.

Then there is this issue of Peter denying the Lord three times; but the One who washed him, the One who cleansed him – He will wash his feet; He will clean his feet for him. On the way to Peter's great accomplishments in the book of Acts, his eventual following Jesus through the doors of death and right in the glory of heaven. It is a great book and a great Saviour. I wonder how I would have treated somebody that denied me three times after I had done so much for him? We are glad the one who washed us will come along later and wash our feet, when they need washing. I think Peter really was willing to lay down his life for the Lord; he just was not spiritually able and strong enough yet. But the day came when he was. God made him able.

Notes



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The Book of John Lesson 24

Name			

Read John 12: 40-50 John 13: 1-38

- 1. In John 12 When you ponder all the people cried for Jesus' crucifixion, what thoughts come to your mind when meditating on verse 42?
- 2. What does verse 48 teach us about the nature of the final judgment?
- 3. What does verse 49 teach us about witnessing?

<u>John 13</u>

- 4. Who were His own in John 13 Verse 1?
- 5. What was Jesus' hour?
- 6. Had Judas long plotted Jesus' betrayal?
- 7. What does this tell us about the unsaved?
- 8. Compare the actions of verse 3 with those in verses 4-5. What does this teach us about serving others?
- 9. What contradiction do you see in Peter's words of verse 6?
- 10. What does verse 8-10 teach us about this washing?
- 11. What does verse 13 teach us about our approach to God in prayer?
- 12. According to verse 13 is foot washing a commandment?



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- 13. To what scripture does Jesus refer in verse 18?
- 14. Did Jesus know before hand what Judas would do?
- 15. What does verse 20 teach us about the world's relationship to Jesus. to the father, and to His disciples?
- 16. Explain the following terms:
 - a. girded
 - b. whit
 - c. lifted up his heal

True/false

- Jesus was almost naked when He washed the disciples feet.
- Peter is a great example of a mature Christian.
- Jesus gave us the commandment of foot washing.

Scripture Memorization; (write these on the back on the sheet, Must be in KJV) Leviticus 19:18; Psalm 32:1-5.

any questions?

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